REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees.

This Amendment was filed to remove the improper multiple dependencies.

Examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

Michael A. Makuch, Reg. No. 32,263 1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, D.C. 20036 Telephone: (202) 659-2811 Fax: (202) 263-4329

September 20, 2006